

**PIKES PEAK  
RADIO AMATEUR  
ASSOCIATION  
(PPRAA)**

**Activities/Meetings**

- Ham Breakfast
- PPRAA Board Mtg  
Mon,  
Daniel's Taco
- PPRAA Membership Mtg  
Wed. May 11th  
IHOP 5749 Stetson Hills  
Bvd
- 10 Meter Nte  
Every Thursday 7:00 pm  
28.290 MHz—USB

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# Ø-BEAT

**Volume 64 Issue 6**

**June 2014**

## Field Day June 28th—29th

PPRAA Field-Day will be held at the PPRAA club station and will be operating 2 or 3 HF stations (Phone/CW, Phone, Digital).

**Location:**

3622 Bar 10 Road  
Calhan, CO  
Talk-in 146.580

**Who:**

PPRAA members  
local amateur radio ops  
friends, family, guests, and  
elected government officials

**When:**

Setup: June 27, 3:30 PM  
Operation:  
June 28, Noon until  
June 29, Noon  
Tear Down:  
June 29, Noon

**Mode of operation:**  
Casual.

**Warning:** If you are looking to be on a high point team this most likely is not a Field Day operation for you.

**If you are looking to:**

- have a really fun time
- operate radio
- blast away in the shooting range
- enjoy good food
- talk home brew
- practice your archery
- rag chew
- use your telescope
- eat (in case you missed that)

then this will be the Field Day for you!



Camping is available so feel free to bring your camper or tent.

You can spend the weekend or drop by for a few minutes.

## PPRAA Special Events

### PPRAA 75 year celebration Special Event Station

- Saturday, July 12, 2014
- Club Station, Ellicott, CO
- More information to follow



### Megafest Special Event Station

At the PPRAA Megafest we will NOT be operating WIAW/Ø. ARRL moved the Colorado WIAW/Ø operations out of July and into September.

## PPRAA Officers and Board of Directors

PPRAA Board of Directors consists of four elected officers, seven board members, as well the past president (time limit dependent). The Ø-Beat editor is a board appointed position and is also a member of the board.

Officers include:

- ⇒ President
- ⇒ Vice-President
- ⇒ Secretary
- ⇒ Treasurer

To send board member's email, browse to the officers section of our website: <http://ppraa.org/about-ppraa/officers>

President	Michael Derbort	KCØELG
Vice-President	Jim Bishop	KDØKQL
Secretary	John Wishart	NGØI
Treasurer	Pam Scott	WØPRS
Board Member	Doug Nielsen	N7LEM
Board Member	Tom Brereton	WØTOM
Board Member	Jim Rader	KDØNQM
Board Member	Diana Nordstrom	KCØNPP
Board Member	Jim Harris	WØEM
Board Member	Virgil Yost	NØXRS
Board Member	Chris Schroeder	KDØUQI
Ø-Beat Editor	Dan Scott	WØRO

## Online Resources

### PPRAA Website

<http://ppraa.org>

The PPRAA website is the cornerstone for club related information, events, and technical information.

In addition you can register, pay dues, and submit donations. Donations to the PPRAA college scholarship fund are managed by FAR Scholarship Committee

### Facebook / Google+

Follow activities as they unfold, or get reminders of upcoming events.

Links to both Facebook and Google+ social media sites can be found on the PPRAA.org.

Or from each social media site search on: Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association

### PPRAA Forums

The PPRAA forums are intended to allow users to exchange of ideas, ask and answer amateur radio related questions, and plan/discuss upcoming events.

This is a fantastic, but underutilized, tool.

Check it out and register at: [PPRAA.Forumotion.net](http://PPRAA.Forumotion.net)

## Monthly Activities

### Membership Meeting

Held the 2nd Wednesday of the month starting at 7:00.

IHOP  
5749 Stetson Hills Blvd  
(Just west of Powers Blvd)

Next meeting is

June 11th 7 pm

NOTE: Many show up at 6 pm for kibitzing and grub.

### Board Meeting

Daniel's Taco Shop  
6:30pm—8:00pm  
6817 Space Village Ave  
(Just outside the north gate of Peterson AFB)  
Board Meetings are open to all members.

### Ham Breakfast

Location changes monthly

New Day Café  
5901 Delmonico Dr.  
7 June 2014  
8:00-9:30 AM

### 10 Meter Net

Every Thursday at 7pm  
Starts on 28.390 USB.  
May move to other bands within the technician class allocations

## Meeting Presentation Topics

### Last Meeting

The May presentation was by Christopher where he presented the design for the new environmental monitoring system.

### June 11th Meeting

The topic of the June meeting is "The Big Antenna Project"

Please drop by the IHOP meeting location to find out about this exciting project.

### July 9th

Kevin, KØBBA will be talking about personal preparedness and how to tailor your preparedness for different scenarios.

Keven will include information relating to Colorado Provident Veterans.

## PPRAA Club Station

We plan on using the station trailer for 2 or 3 stations. We are working on filling some holes caused by removing the water tank, as well as other odds and ends.

Before Field Day we plan on getting:

- ◇ Holes plugged where we removed the water heater and heater.
- ◇ Electrical

- ◇ Coax exit panel
- ◇ Carpet
- ◇ Installed locks

First priorities:

1. Coax exit panel.
2. Re-panel the under carriage due to water tank removal.
3. Put jacks in place to stabilize.

4. Install the carpet to help with noise reduction

These 4 items will allow us to easily operate from the location on a temporary bases, such as Field Day.

To be added to the work notification list, write: [trailer@ppraa.org](mailto:trailer@ppraa.org)

**Station  
Workday  
follows the  
HAM Breakfast  
monthly**

## Zero Beat

Please submit content to the Ø-Beat. Whatever you are doing amateur radio related. This section is for the quick article works well with 75 to about 150 words.

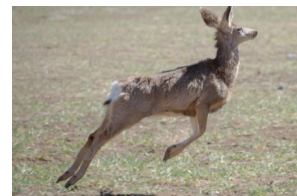
Send a picture with the article. That mobile install, your station, nice new antenna. Remember, a picture is worth a thousand word. So if you write a 75 word article and send picture, it really turns out to be a 1,075 word article!

Maybe a quick review of a new rig, the initial setup and contact.

I am trying to change the front page banner with a different picture that includes Pikes Peak.. So, if you have some pictures please send them along. I cannot promise which one I will choose, but it would be great to have a good supply!

Some ideas include:

- ⇒ Foxhunt
- ⇒ Homemade Key
- ⇒ New Microphone
- ⇒ AREA event or training
- ⇒ Antenna assembly
- ⇒ Grounding
- ⇒ Ham Road trip
- ⇒ Interesting DX



**Leap into action and send a short article to:**  
[zerobeat@ppraa.org](mailto:zerobeat@ppraa.org)



## May General Meeting Minutes

PPRAA General Meeting  
Minutes

14 May 2014

President Michael Derbort called the PPRAA general meeting to order at 7:00 PM at IHOP Restaurant at 5749 Stetson Hills Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO.

### Silent Keys – none

Minutes were approved as published.

### ARRL Rocky Mountain Convention in NM

Albuquerque, NM, event will be held on Aug 8-10.

### 2014 Goals and Objectives - no changes

- ◇ New leadership
- ◇ Financials - Add 20 new paying members, make \$2500 on Megafest
- ◇ Club station - at least one operating position permanently online, trailer completed
- ◇ Special Events
  - 75 years of service by our club - July 12-13 at our club station
  - Scouting event - date is TBD

### Committee Reports

**Treasurer's Report** - Pam stated we had \$9964.93 in our bank accounts as of 30 April 2014.

**ARES Update** - Jim Bishop reported on local ARES events and upcoming activities that need volunteers. ARES website is [www.ppara.org](http://www.ppara.org). The correct & working volunteer link is <http://216.161.57.107/ARESPSE>.

### Scholarship Fund

Please donate to our fund for the 2014-15 school year. \$477 has been donated so far this year. Donations can be made via PayPal on the PPRAA website ([ppraa.org](http://ppraa.org)).

\*\*\*\*\*

Member Challenge: Jim Bishop will match your Scholarship Fund donation up to \$300 until July 4.

\*\*\*\*\*

### El Paso County Radio Club Consolidated Membership

No new progress at this time.

### Megafest 2014

Saturday, July 26th at Lewis Palmer High School, Monument, CO.

### Field Day

It will be at our club station in Ellicott on June 28-29. Setup starts at noon on Friday, May 27. Camping is available at the site.

### Volunteer Examiner (VE) Report

VE session is on the even months, Saturday, June 14, at 9AM at Colorado Technical University. Our club Members are encouraged to get qualified

to be a Volunteer Examiner. It's an open book exam, with the Volunteer Examiner Manual available as a PDF for study and reference on the [arrl.org](http://arrl.org) website.

### Program

Chris Schroeder gave a presentation on the design of a new environmental conditions monitoring project.

### Upcoming Events / Notices

- ◇ Ham Breakfast - Saturday, June 7
- ◇ Thursday Night Net: On the air every Thursday, 7PM, at 28.390 MHz (USB, 10 meter band, vertically polarized).
- ◇ Next Meeting: 7:00PM, 11 June 2014, IHOP Restaurant, Stetson Hills Blvd. & Powers.
- ◇ Next Board Meeting: 7:00PM, 9 June 2014, Daniel's Taco Shop.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Wishart NG0I

Secretary

24 May 2014

***“To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here.”***

## May Board Meeting Minutes

### PPRAA Board Meeting Minutes

12 May 2014

- ◇ Present: Michael Derbort, Pam Scott, Virgil Yost, Jim Bishop, Diana Nordstrom, Jim Rader, Jim Harris, Chris Schroeder, Doug Nielsen, John Wishart, Tom Brereton, Gordon Dixon (guest)
- ◇ President Michael Derbort called the PPRAA board meeting to order at 6:42 PM at Daniel's Taco Shop Restaurant.
- ◇ April board meeting minutes were approved as published.

### 2014 Goals & Objectives - no change in G&O

1. New Leadership
2. Financials
  - Members - 20 more paying members is our goal (150 total)
  - We have 2 new members from last meeting.
  - Megafest - \$2500 profit is our goal.
3. Club Station - goal: at least one operating position and the building completed.
4. Special Events
  - Special events station for the 100th anniversary of ARRL at the Megafest operating as WI4WV/0. We would also like to have another special events station on July 12-13.
  - 75 yrs of service for our club
  - Scouting event -

### Committee Reports

**Treasurer's Report** - Pam stated we have a bank balance of \$9964.93 as of 30 April 2014.

### Building Committee

- ◇ A group went out on May 3 to work on the trailer.
- ◇ Station Building - several holes need to be sealed.
- ◇ Land Use Agreement - finalized version has been agreed upon. Will be signed shortly.

**Megafest 2014** - Pam noted that we have 30 tables sold. Raffle ticket sales also are well ahead of last year. Boy Scouts will be serving food. Additional table rentals have been set up.

**CCARC Report** - Doug reported on the meeting on Apr 19. New D-Star repeater in Parker. Some discussions arose about new ARRL policy on keeping repeater information updated. They also had a presentation on 501C3 organizations.

**Electronic Media** - Doug - lot of updating of the front page.

**Asset Committee** - Mike presented an asset list for our review.

### Scholarship Fund

Pam reported that we have \$477 donated for this year as of today.

### Zero Beat

Dan noted that he still needs short articles of interest from members. Please submit articles and pictures to Dan at zerobeat@ppraa.org. Deadline this month is the 23rd of May.

### ARES

Jim Bishop reported on several local events that need ARES volunteer support. See local ARES website for info or to volunteer: [www.ppara.org](http://www.ppara.org). Correct IP address is <http://216.161.57.107/ARESPSE> is the link to the volunteer web page.

**Technical Education** - Tom has been working with a handicapped individual to get his license. He will need a special VE session for the exam.

### New Business

School Presentation - Scott elementary school has contacted our club regarding a presentation on amateur radio for the school during the next school year.

### Unfinished Business

No new items.

### Upcoming Events (see handout)

- ◇ Ham Breakfast - June 7 at New Day Cafe, 8AM-9:30AM
- ◇ Next Board Meeting: Monday, 9 June 2014, at Daniel's Taco Shop.
- ◇ Megafest - July 26, Lewis-Palmer High School, Monument, CO.
- ◇ Annual Picnic - Aug 16 at Memorial Park
- ◇ Special Event Station - 75 years of service, Sat, July 12 at the club station, around 14.245 MHz +/-, 8AM-8PM (14Z -- 02Z), call sign AF0S.

### Around The Table

- ◇ Jim Harris - he is recovering from surgery.
- ◇ Jim Rader - wondering about the size of a gate to drive through. Is an 10' wide gate enough?
- ◇ Tom Brereton - has a new antenna he's put up, called a "Mystery Antenna".
- ◇ Chris Schroeder - requesting a room in Simla for an EOC office & education purposes.
- ◇ Pam - Dan is suffering from kidney stones.
- ◇ Gordon - Scouting Spring Camporee held recently. Michael noted that we'd like to have a Scouting event promoting ham radio.
- ◇ Virgil - gave a code oscillator to his daughter's school class.
- ◇ Jim Bishop - has a new antenna, an S9 43' vertical.
- ◇ Doug - CCARC is sponsoring 10 awards for COQSO party.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
John Wishart NG0I  
Secretary  
24 May 2014



## Calling all potential instructors



PPRAA is looking for people to help with a General Class

licensing course.

The text will be from HamRadioSchool.com General Licensing Course.

Dan, WØRO, is looking for a location on April 6th to start organizing the class.

The course author, Stu Turner has volunteered helping and teaching a couple of the sections.

Why this book?

"Unlike most other intermediate ham radio books, this one does not pad its pages with the public domain questions from the exam question pool and try to "teach the test" by requiring you to memorize answers without understanding them."

"This book really teaches radio and when you "get it" you don't have to rely on mine numbing memorization."

**Don't just memorize!**

**Really get it!**



**"I mostly  
worked split  
with "up  
2." Most  
people were  
well behaved. "**

## W1AW/Ø RTTY—email repost

Hi Gang,

Since the start of the week for WIAW/0 (5/21) I have worked seven hours and close to 300 Q's. Then, the power supply for the amp started making a popping sound occasionally so I thought valor was the better part of discretion and called it quits for the duration. Hopefully, I can get to take a look at it in a day or two and get it going again without too much difficulty.

The first hour was on 15 meters and the remainder was on 20. Conditions were varied but never really good. I did manage two European Russian (one off the side of the beam)

stations and another rare one that I forget at the moment. The remainder were a mixture of European, Japanese and America stations.

I mostly worked split with "up 2." Most people were well behaved. It usually took a few minutes for the pileup to spread out so finding a workable call was usually not too difficult. There was one or two case of deliberate QRM.

2Tone far out performed MMTTY. If I had to rely solely on MMTTY it mostly would have been a hopeless task. I found "Flutter" and AFC off was the best choices on MMTTY. 2Tone AFC on and

everything else normal was okay for it.

It was a very enjoyable experience. Wish the power supply had not acted up.

Good luck to all operators. If you haven't got into operating seriously consider it. In addition to RTTY you can work SSB and CW. See ppaa.org for details. There are several more days until the end of the WIAW/0 week on Tuesday.

73,

Jim H., W0EM

## PPRAA Picnic—Mark your calendars

**PPRAA annual picnic**

**The pavilion is reserved  
from 5:00 AM - 9:00 PM**

Pam Scott, W0PRS

PPRAA Treasurer

**Saturday, August 16th  
Memorial Park Pavilion B  
1605 E. Pikes Peak Ave**

This is the same location as the 2013 Club Picnic.

More information forthcoming.





## Rocky Mountain Division Convention

August 8-10, 2014

The 2014 Duke City Hamfest, the premier hamfest in the southwest, will be bigger and better than last year!

- ◆ **Venue:** The Hamfest will once again be held at Hotel Albuquerque located near I-40, I-25, and Albuquerque's historic Old Town. The hotel is near the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, Explora Science Center & Children's Museum, Albuquerque Bio Park,

Albuquerque Zoo, the National Atomic Museum, and much more. A limited number of hotel rooms are reserved at the special rate of \$89.

- ◆ **Activities:** This year's three-day format accommodates even more activities. Beside the forums and tailgate, a high altitude balloon launch, Saturday and Sunday morning breakfasts with special guests speakers and prizes are planned. More on this soon. Speakers: The Duke City Hamfest has once again lined up several excellent speakers for our mixers, banquets, and

breakfasts. Speakers include Bob Heil (K9EID), David Jorgensen (WD5COV), M Corey (K11U), and Riley Hollongsworth (K4ZDH). Major manufactures and Vendors: Along with our expanded program, Duke City Hamfest is inviting local, regional, and national amateur radio manufacturers and vendors to show off their latest and greatest offerings to the ham community and sell brand-new equipment. See a list of the current confirmed set of vendors.

- ◆ **Admission:** To help grow the 2014 DCHF into

something grand, a minimal admission fee of \$5.00 will be charged. Admission price includes a \$2 raffle ticket and admission for all three days. Kids under 18 are free.

## ARRL National Centennial Convention 2014

Thursday, July 17, 2014 -  
Saturday, July 19, 2014

Connecticut Convention  
Center  
100 Columbus Blvd  
Hartford, Connecticut 06103

**Come celebrate!** Thousands of members and friends of ARRL will gather at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, ARRL's birthplace, to celebrate the organization's first 100 years of members "Advancing the Art and Science of Radio." Founded in 1914, ARRL (American Radio Relay League) is the national association for Amateur Radio in the US and the largest organization of radio amateurs, or "hams," in the world.

**Thursday, July 17, 2014**  
All-Day Training Tracks: (8:30 AM to 4:30 PM) public service,

technology, radiosport, and more!

- Lunch with special guest speaker
- International Guests "Welcome" Reception
- Short bus trip to tour ARRL headquarters and WIAW

### **Friday & Saturday, July 18-19, 2014**

- Exhibit Hall featuring ARRL program representatives, Amateur Radio manufacturers, equipment sellers, and an indoor flea market. Hours: Friday 9 AM to 5 PM; Saturday 9 AM to 4 PM
- Dozens of forums and presentations

### **Friday night**

- ARRL Centennial Banquet with keynote speaker, FEMA Administrator, Craig Fugate,

KK4INZ.

- ARRL Wouff Hong Ceremony, Friday 10:00 PM
- Short bus trip to tour ARRL headquarters and WIAW
- Saturday morning Presidents Breakfast
- Closing ceremony Saturday evening

- ⇒ Sunday, July 20, 2014  
No Convention Center activities
- \* Short bus trip to tour ARRL headquarters and WIAW

While attending the convention, enjoy a tour of ARRL Headquarters and WIAW, the Hiram P. Maxim Memorial Station (pictured below) in Newington, Connecticut—just outside of Hartford.





Diamond X50A  
Antenna

**"This  
information is  
intended to  
get your  
started on  
your way to  
operating 2M  
on the SSB  
portion of the  
band. "**

## Getting Started on 2-Meter SSB—conclusion

*Try the "Other Mode" on 2 Meters"*

Repost from Bob Witte, KØNR

### VHF Contests

Think of VHF contests as "VHF activity weekend" since they are a great opportunity to just get on the air and work most of the local 2M SSB enthusiasts. The main contests are the ARRL June VHF QSO Party, the ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes, the ARRL September VHF QSO Party and the CQ Worldwide VHF Contest in July. For more information, take a look at the article *How to Work a VHF Contest* at <http://www.k0nr.com>

### Equipment

The required equipment for getting started on 2M SSB is pretty basic - a transceiver capable of 2M SSB and a 2M antenna. If you own one of the rigs mentioned above then you are probably ready to go. The 2M antenna you already have is probably *vertically polarized* since that is what we use for 2M FM, both mobile and base stations. All of the 1/4-wave and 5/8-wave antennas that are commonly used for 2M mobile work are vertically polarized. Most omni-directional base station antennas such as those made by Cushcraft, Diamond, Comet, etc. are vertical, too. These antennas will work for SSB but most of the really active 2M SSB stations use *horizontally-polarized* antennas. Vertically-polarized stations can work horizontally-polarized stations but

there will be a substantial signal loss (about 20dB?). If vertical is all you have, then give it a try. If you can get a horizontal antenna, then your results will be much better.

The most common horizontally-polarized antenna on 2M is a Yagi mounted so that its elements are parallel to the ground. There are a variety of horizontally-polarized, omni-directional mobile antennas, such as the HO antenna made by M<sup>2</sup> (see <http://www.m2inc.com>).

### Get on the Air

This information is intended to get your started on your way to operating 2M on the SSB portion of the band. You will learn more as you get into it and you will find that most of the people hanging out down on sideband are friendly, knowledgeable and helpful. They are always happy to see new call signs on 2M sideband.

Some resources available on the web are:

Rocky Mountain VHF Plus web page: <http://www.rmvhf.org>  
VHF Operating articles by KØNR (similar to this one) at: <http://www.k0nr.com/>  
North East Weak Signal Group web site at: <http://www.newsvhf.com/>

Bob, KØNR, is a long time member of PPRAA. Bob has many accomplishments in Amateur radio.

See: [www.k0nr.com](http://www.k0nr.com)



## Antennas For Tight Locations



### ANTENNAS FOR TIGHT LOCATIONS.2

The previous article ended by mentioning the resistance of a resonant circuit. A series resonant circuit in your radio has a resistance of near 0 ohms. Tuning is very sharp. Also, it is the same circuit as your 1/2 wave dipole and similar antennas.

Putting this little circuit up on your tower to use as an antenna will prove to be less adequate than the larger antennas. Why, electrically it has the same characteristics?

There is 1 factor that can be measured that will indicate if the Series resonant circuit built will become an efficient radiator. That is the resistance

the circuit offers at resonance. This is also referred to as Radiation Resistance.

Here is where your antenna analyzers or noise bridge can be of value.

Go ahead and build an antenna. Any size or shape. Use your instrument to locate the resonant point. All measurements will need to be at the antenna.

For example, a coil spring from a 1963 Chevy Impala in series with 2 of its car doors as a capacitor. How do you think it will perform?

The analyzer will give you an idea. To start, adjust the spacing of the doors to resonate the circuit where you want it. You can use the Reactance (X) mode on the analyzer. At 0 reactance you have resonance.

Now check the Resistance (R) value with your instrument. The higher the R value the more efficient it will be as a radiator. Why?

Remember that the little circuit in your radio is near 0 ohms. This means it is operating at near 0 volts and the current is at maximum that the circuit delivers.

Let's say the R (radiation resistance) is .1 ohms. Since there is a coil of fine wire, it may develop 2 ohms of pure resistance. Now divide the Radiation resistance by the Radiation resistance + the Pure resistance of 2 ohms. That is .1 divided by 2.1. This will equal .047 or 4.76% efficient. Pretty stinky.

As you enlarge the components of the circuit the Radiation resistance will also increase. Using the same formula, you will find as you increase to 25 ohms and greater the efficiency becomes quite high as a radiator. Your Chevy antenna will probably work quite well.

How large do you have to make it? This and more will be in the next issue.

73,

Ralph WD0EJA

May 2014

BILAL COMPANY

137 MANCHESTER DR.

FLORISSANT, CO. 80816

U.S.A

PH/FX: 719/687-0650

wd0eja@isotronantennas.com

## PPRAA—30 Years Past—Club Meeting Minutes

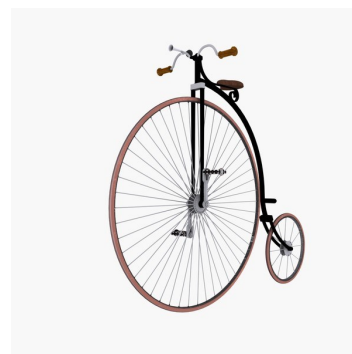
### June 1984:

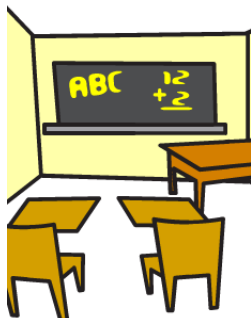
- Apparently there was a special newsletter for the convention. (Anyone have a copy of that?)
- Thirty-nine members at Giuseppe's for the May meeting.
- The club approved a motion to spend \$800 to buy a used 15-foot trailer for club functions, and \$200 for repairs to get it in good shape. A committee was

formed to oversee this.

- Gerry Johnson NØCWZ gave a program on balanced modulators. Next month's program will be Greg Utterback NØØU talking about VHF.
- Some discussion about lowering club dues. Club dues are \$12 regular and \$15 family.
- Jim Owens KR7J is moving to Rhode Island.

- A BASIC program for printing out QSL cards is published in this issue.





Actual test location picture.

## VE Testing Colorado Spring (PPRAA)

Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association (PPRAA)

When:  
Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec  
2nd Saturday at 9 AM

Location:  
Colorado Technical University (CTU)  
4435 North Chestnut  
Colorado Springs, CO 80907

Directions:  
<http://ppraa.org/ve-testing>  
or contact:  
Dan Martin  
VE@PPRAA.org



## VE Testing Woodland Park (MARC)

MOUNTAIN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (MARC)

When:  
Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov  
1st Saturday at 10 AM

Location:  
Woodland Park  
Woodland Park Library-  
Community Meeting RM  
218 East Midland Avenue

Directions:  
<http://www.nx0g.org/ve.html>  
or contact  
Wes Wilson (KØHBZ)  
k0hzbz@arrl.net  
Call (719) 687-8758

**Anyone passing their Technician Class examination at a PPRAA test session will receive a free year's membership to the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association**

## Applicants will need the following items:

1. A valid PHOTO ID, driver's license preferred (if you do not have a valid photo ID, please call for alternative identification requirements).
2. Your FRN or SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (now required – this includes children).
3. Your CURRENT ORIGINAL amateur radio license (if any) and a PHOTOCOPY for the VE Team to keep.
4. The CURRENT ORIGINAL CSCEs you have and a PHOTOCOPY for the VE Team to keep.
5. Cash, Check or Money Order for \$15 (standard ARRL VE Fee). Checks and money orders should be made out to either ARRL. This covers all exams you wish to take at this VE session.

NOTE: PPRAA and MARC VE Team policy, as with many VE

Teams, is to not allow same day retests on failed exams.

### PPRAA – Colorado Springs testing only:

Anyone passing their Technician Class examination at a PPRAA test session will receive a free year's membership to the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association

## The Amateur Radio Operator Code of Conduct—Part 2

Continuing on with excerpts from some of the many versions of the “Code” to try to get amateur operators to use some reasonable level of manners when communicating with others, I will discuss another important issue.

**I will be sure of the station’s call before calling him.**

When contesting or working DX, it is generally accepted practice to know the call sign and location of the contact before you call them. How, you may ask? By listening before you key up! The purpose of contesting and generally working DX is usually to make as many contacts as possible in a given length of time. When making a contact when you aren’t sure of the other station’s call, you are really throwing a wrench in his gears! Instead of taking as little as 10 to 15 seconds to accept and end your call, he is bogged down by having to give you his call again and possibly, his QTH if you asked for it. This can take quite a while and usually

can throw his timing off and may, in the wide view, cost him an award if it happens enough times during a contest.

Look at it another way. You are giving a presentation to a group. You are really rolling along and making some progress and are on track. Up pops a hand with a question. Your momentum is now lost and you are sidetracked for a while. Will you get back to where you were, or will you flounder around and lose time and your train of thought. Was the asking of the question necessary or were you going to answer it within a few seconds anyway? Did you already answer it a few minutes earlier in the presentation and the asking party just wasn’t listening?

A good contesteer or DX operator will give his call at regular intervals along with his QTH so that his contacts will not have to bother him for it and slow him down. It does take two to make a good conversation.

A few minutes, or even a few seconds, spent listening instead of talking, makes a much better

environment for good communications for both the sender and the receiver.

I would like to thank the following for their hard work in researching the problem and writing their own versions of the “Code of Conduct” for amateur radio operators.

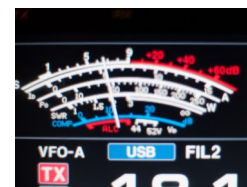
Attributes:

[dx-code.org](http://dx-code.org)

Randy Johnson W6SJ

Paul M. Segal, W9EEA – (1926)

More to follow in the next issue.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

**“When  
contesting or  
working DX, it is  
generally  
accepted  
practice to know  
the call sign and  
location of the  
contact before  
you call them...”**

## Capital Offence—messing with the PPRAA station

The PPRAA club station had some un-invented guests or maybe residents. Unfortunately the guests did not know the seriousness of their crime. Ignorance was no excuse.

This email explains the situation, the judging of the perpetrators, and the results of the judges ruling.

Doug,

*Also, Barb had sent Pam an e-mail about the evil bunny invasion, and those that we suspect have taken up residence in the trailer. That was intended to be informational, not immediately actionable.*

*Next time someone comes out, they may want to inspect and continue the seal-job...*

*I can happily report that 2 of the*

*3 bunnies we've seen making their home in the trailer have met an untimely demise via .22LR. The 3rd is elusive, and as I stated, those are the ones we've seen. Hopefully we've put a dent in their procreation abilities for awhile, unless they've morphed to a n a s e x u a l capability...and sometimes I*

*wonder...*

*Thx, Brad*



**Bunny Foo Fu a distance relative of the PPRAA station intruder**

**PIKES PEAK RADIO  
AMATEUR  
ASSOCIATION**

Send membership application to:

Pikes Peak Radio Amateur  
Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 16521  
Colorado Springs, CO 80935

**General Questions:**  
ppraa@ppraa.org

**ØBeat:**  
zerobeat@ppraa.org



**ppraa.org**

**Get Radio Active, Get On the Air!**

## Membership Application:

**Date:** \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ **New Membership: Yes / No**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Call:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Class:** \_\_\_\_ **Phone # (\_\_\_\_)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you a ARRL member: Yes / No**

**Additional Family Members:**

**Name1:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Call:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Class:** \_\_\_\_ **ARRL Member: Yes / No**

**Name2:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Call:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Class:** \_\_\_\_ **ARRL Member: Yes / No**

**Name3:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Call:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Class:** \_\_\_\_ **ARRL Member: Yes / No**

\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 Full Member

\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Full Member over 65

\_\_\_\_ \$18.00 Family Membership

\_\_\_\_ \$12.00 Family Membership over 65

\$ \_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_ **Membership Amount**

\$ \_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_ **Scholarship Fund Donation**

\$ \_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_ **PPRAA General Fund Donation**

\$ \_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_ **Total**

## PPRAA Scholarship Fund

The PPRAA strives to provide educational and recreational activities for its members intended to further their knowledge in the art of radio communications. The PPRAA encourages its members to participate in public service communications, civil defense, charitable fund drives and other activities for which amateur radio is particularly adapted. In this spirit of public service the PPRAA embarked over three years ago on creating a scholarship fund to promote undergraduate students to excel in the Engineering and Sciences. The fund will award one \$1,000 scholarship per year and be open to any student who is pursuing an undergraduate degree in either Engineering (Electrical, Civil, Mechanical, Chemical, Aeronautical,



**PPRAA investing in the future**

Astronautical) or the hard sciences (Physics, Chemistry, Computer Science) at any accredited university with an emphasis on Colorado

institutions. The scholarship program will be managed by the Foundation for Amateur Radio located in Washington, DC and with help from Amateur Radio enthusiasts such as you; it will be ready for the 2015 school year.

Anonymous donations may be made directly to the scholarship fund at:

FAR Scholarship Committee  
P.O. Box 911  
Columbia, MD 21044

Checks to: PPRAA Scholarship

Online, secure, donations can be made at:

[ppraa.org/donations](http://ppraa.org/donations).

Consider adding a donation to your membership when you renew online.